

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LISBON 06546 051552Z

42

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAM-01 AF-06 OPIC-03 IO-10 EB-07

TRSE-00 OMB-01 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 PRS-01

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /087 W  
----- 010683

R 051448Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4852

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 6546

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, PO

SUBJECT: JAPANESE ASSETS IMPOUNDED IN PORTUGAL

REF (A) TRANSMITTAL SLIP AND ATTACHMENTS OF  
APRIL 12, 1973, FROM WILLIAM PIEZ,  
EA/J, TO LISBON

(B) LISBON 827 OF MARCH 7, 1973, AND PREVIOUS

1. UK EMBOFF (CLARK) CALLED ON ECONOMIC  
COUNSELOR OCT 30 TO URGE THAT ALL INTERESTED PARTIES MOVE PROMPTLY  
TO SETTLE REF ISSUE. HE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT PORTUGAL MAY  
ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PEOPLES' REPUBLIC OF  
CHINA, A COMPLICATING FACTOR THAT MIGHT DELAY INDEFINITELY  
RESOLUTION OF THIS ISSUE. IN VIEW OF PREVIOUS CORRESPONDENCE  
ON THIS SUBJECT, ECONOMIC COUNSELOR STATED U.S. WOULD LIKELY  
COOPERATE IN TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO JAPANESE.

2. JAPANESE ASSETS, WHICH WERE SEIZED IN NOVEMBER 1945, CUR-  
RENTLY AMOUNT TO APPROXIMATELY 45 MILLION ESCUDOS (ABOUT US\$1.65  
MILLION). THESE FUNDS ARE DEPOSITED IN TWO ACCOUNTS, AT BANCO  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LISBON 06546 051552Z

PORTUGUESE DO ATLANTICO AND PANCADA, MORAES & CIA., CREDITED TO

U.S., BRITISH AND CHINESE EMBASSIES. AGREEMENT WAS REPORTEDLY REACHED IN 1965 TO TRANSFER FUNDS TO JAPAN. AT THAT TIME, HOWEVER, JAPANESE REQUESTED A DELAY BECAUSE THEY FEARED PORTUGAL WOULD IMPOUND FUNDS AND USE THEM TO SETTLE WORLD WAR II CLAIMS AGAINST JAPANESE.

3. ECONOMIC COUNSELOR AND CLARK AGREED TO SEEK NECESSARY CONCURRENCES FOR RELINQUISHING ASSETS. CLARK PROMISED TO VERIFY EXACT VALUE OF BANK DEPOSITS AND TO OBTAIN JAPANESE COOPERATION. ABSENCE OF NATIONALIST CHINESE REPRESENTATION IN PORTUGAL, HOWEVER, PRESENTS COMPLICATING FACTOR. IF, NEVERTHELESS, ALL INTERESTED PARTIES CONCUR, EMBASSY PROPOSES TO EFFECT TRANSFER VIA INTRA-BANK SHIFT OF ACCOUNTS TO THE JAPANESE EMBASSY. GOP WOULD BE NOTIFIED OF OUR INTENTIONS.

4. DEPARTMENT REQUESTED TO:

(A) CONFIRM THAT IT WISHES TO TRANSFER FUNDS TO JAPANESE;

(B) INFORM EMBASSY WHAT LEGAL RECEIPT MUST BE OBTAINED FROM JAPANESE;

(C) REQUEST EMBASSY TAIPEI TO OBTAIN NATIONALIST CHINESE APPROVAL FOR TRANSFER. (NATIONALIST CHINESE GAVE THEIR CONCURRENCE IN 1965). NATIONALIST CHINESE, GIVEN THEIR LACK OF REPRESENTATION HERE, MAY BE DISPOSED TO EMPOWER USG TO ACT ON THEIR BEHALF.  
CARLUCCI

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BLOCKED ASSETS, POLICIES, WORLD WAR II, BANK ACCOUNTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 NOV 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** buchantr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975LISBON06546  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750384-0950  
**From:** LISBON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19751173/aaaacmxm.tel  
**Line Count:** 88  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** buchantr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <10 JUN 2003 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <22 OCT 2003 by buchantr>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** JAPANESE ASSETS IMPOUNDED IN PORTUGAL  
**TAGS:** EFIN, PO, JA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006